

My Fellow Democrats of Virginia: The universities and the various colleges of the state were given increased appropriations which wonderfully improved them and made these state institutions equal to the railroad interests and against the laboring people. Mr. Glass also was a member of the constitutional convention of Virginia.

1900. Mr. Glass, in the *Senate Journal*, is recorded as voting "No." His vote and action as a senator were favorable to the broad interests and against the laboring people. Mr. Glass also was a member of the constitutional convention of Virginia.

"One of the most important and beneficial features of the new constitution is that creating the state corporation commission and giving it power to control and regulate railroads and to fix freight and passenger rates. This great and beneficent reform, the interests of the people precipitated a fierce and determined fight in the convention. Failure to do the people at this critical time in the history of Virginia was a dereliction of public duty which can be neither excused nor extenuated. Let us examine the records of the constitutional convention and ascertain what Mr. Glass did and says. This great fight was being made for the first time. The *Journal of the constitutional convention* discloses that the report of the committee on corporations, which included the employees' liability bill, was taken up in committee of the whole on the fourth day of February, 1902. Mr. Glass answered the roll call on that day. He appears to have been present each day until Feb. 15, 1902. The last roll call which he answered the roll call, while this part of the constitution was being considered. On Feb. 12, 1902, he was granted indefinite leave of absence. After the report of the committee on corporations had been considered for some time in committee of the whole and amended, he was presented with amendments to the constitutional convention to vote and disposal. It was considered each day from Feb. 25 to March 4, 1902, when it was finally adopted. During these days from the 28th of February to March 4, there were twenty roll calls upon important matters deeply affecting the people of Virginia and determining and fixing the powers of the state corporation commission.

Missed Every Roll Call.

"Mr. Glass is not recorded as voting on a single one of the roll-calls. He is not even paired upon a single roll-call as being favorable or unfavorable to any of these important matters including the Employees' Liability section, nor paired upon the final adoption of the report. He seems to have folded his tent like the Arab, and fled to the desert before this great fight was being made for the people, or, of such vast and far-reaching importance to the future of this commonwealth. If Mr. Glass' absence was caused by sickness or other unavoidable cause, he certainly could have paired upon these measures, and at least upon the final adoption of the report. He failed even to do this. But his dereliction of duty and his fleeing from the fight becomes more marked and more striking upon an examination of his roll-call record which shows that he was paired on other smaller matters. After his absence on Feb. 17, he was paired with Mr. Gordon, of Nelson, on an unimportant amendment to the report of the committee on executive officers. He did not answer a roll-call until March 9, 1902. Mr. Glass, posing as a great champion of the people now, and demanding that the future of the interests of the people, should explain why he fled from this fight and missed the great opportunity of his life to prove himself the champion of the people against the corporations. Another remarkable incident in connection with this fight is that even during the debates in committee of the whole when the fight was being waged for the people, and he was present, he failed to give his voice or give any utterance in behalf of the people. Absent, silent, unimpaired, the provisions of the new constitution creating the corporation commission were adopted without any assistance from him. If the other members of the constitutional convention had been as faithful as Mr. Glass, there would exist no need of a corporation commission to control and regulate and fix freight and passenger rates in the interests of the people. The people of Virginia cannot approve the public record of a man who, when he wants his official position, discloses the fact that he possesses the voice of Jacob, but the hand of Esau. It comes with poor grace from him to conduct a campaign against the corporations and to show the people the record upon one of the most critical times in the history of the state arising him in the face. The small criticisms to which I have been subjected by inveterate political enemies pale to insignificance before this monumental failure of duty by Mr. Glass.

"This disposition of his part to vote or to speak is an important instance affecting the regulation and control of railroads has been further exhibited by his record in congress. On July 23, 1905, when the question came up in the house representatives upon the adoption of the conference report on the railroad bill regulating and controlling railroads, Mr. Glass did not vote and did not speak. Again he seems to have fled from the fight and in making proper provision to have his vote recorded in the adoption of this important measure.

Glass vs. Machine Rule.

"These are not the only pretensions proffered to the people by Mr. Glass, which are contradicted conclusively by his public record as disclosed in the constitutional convention. He now poses as a great opponent of machine politics, although in every campaign he has extended his hands to the support and if there is a machine in Virginia, it is the machine of Senator Martin, the responsibility is with Mr. Glass as much as with anyone else. His conversion did not come except concurrently with his candidacy for the senatorship. This must convince any impartial person that his present position is animated by selfishness and not by patriotism. No one ever heard from him any lamentations of distress or of moral conditions until he connected the idea of furthering his own political ambitions.

"He has posed in this campaign as being opposed to one-man power and desiring to give the people the right to control and of electing officers. If the views of Mr. Glass had prevailed in the constitutional convention there would have been an oligarchy in Virginia with a governor at its head surpassing any that has ever existed in this union. The machine convention would have followed his views the rights of the people would have been destroyed, popular government would have been imperiled, and Virginia would have been Russianized.

What Glass Favored.

"Let us see the policy that this pretended friend of the people desired to impose upon this state as a part of her rotten constitution. He favored in a convention that all the judges in the state should be named by the gov-